Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Every year, 1 out of 10 elderly persons in the United States is a victim of physical and emotional abuse and neglect and exploitation, and they are denied many of their rights; and,

Whereas, The health and well-being of elderly people in South Dakota should be one of our highest priorities and of concern to all Americans; and,

Whereas, No aspect of our society – technology, agriculture, science, religion, sports, education – would enjoy its current prominence without the contributions from those who are elderly; and,

Whereas, We can all benefit from the wisdom and knowledge acquired by Americans who are elderly, and the experiences of their past can help South Dakota meet the challenges of its future; and,

Whereas, People who are elderly are among the most important resources of South Dakota, and it is fitting that we recognize the need to protect their health, safety and rights; and,

Whereas, Today's forum entitled, "The Silent Epidemic: Protecting Your Loved Ones And Yourself," being held at the Center for Active Generations in Sioux Falls, will focus on what elder persons can do to protect themselves from physical, emotional and financial exploitation:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 7, 2006, as

ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourteenth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State